

T-263

c. 1850

Ira Hopkins House

St. Michaels

private

The Ira Hopkins house is one of four frame structures that marks the intersection of Locust and Carpenter streets, known in St. Michaels history as "Hell's Crossing." The name is thought to have been inspired by raucous sailors who met at this point on their way back from village taverns. This story-and-a-half hall/parlor dwelling represents a standard house type for the second quarter of the nineteenth century, but few examples have survived in St. Michaels (See also 102 Carpenter Street, T-102).

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-263

Magi No. 2102635404

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Ira Hopkins House

## 2. Location

street & number SW corner of Carpenter and Locust streets ☐ not for publication

city, town St. Michaels ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Ira Hopkins

street & number 200 Locust Street telephone no.:

city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD 21663

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio

city, town Easton state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1967 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

## 7. Description

Survey No. T-263

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			c. 1950

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### Ira Hopkins House description

The Ira Hopkins house stands on the southwest corner of the intersection of Locust and Carpenter streets in St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces east with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Moved around 1950 to its present location, the mid nineteenth century hall/parlor frame house was formerly sited along Locust Street. Supported by a concrete block foundation the frame house is sheathed with asbestos shingles and covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof.

The east (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with a center four-panel door flanked by six over six sash windows. The knee wall of the second floor is marked by two smaller sash windows. A plain boxed cornice finishes the base of the roof.

The north gable end is distinguished by an exterior brick chimney with a corbelled brick base. The gable end is flush.

The west (rear) elevation has an asymmetrical arrangement of six over six sash windows and smaller sash windows that light the second floor. The south gable end is finished in a similar manner as the balance of the house.

The interior was not seen.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. T-263

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Ira Hopkins house is one of four frame structures that marks the intersection of Locust and Carpenter streets, known in St. Michaels history as "Hell's Crossing." The name is thought to have been inspired from raucous sailors who met at this point on their way back from village taverns. The story-and-a-half hall/parlor dwelling is a standard house type for the second quarter of the nineteenth century, but few have survived in St. Michaels.

Survey No. T-263

**Acreage of nominated property** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle scale** \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References** do NOT complete UTM references

A

		
Zone	Easting	Northing

**B**

Zone Easting Northing

**C**

**D**

**E** 

**F**

**G**

**H**

### Verbal boundary description and justification

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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<b>name/title</b>	Paul Touart - Architectural Historian
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**organization** Historic St. Michaels **date** 10/26/85

street & number	telephone
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**city or town** St. Michaels **state** MD 21663

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

The "La Hopkins" house (T-263) is not 1 1/2 stories,  
but 2 stories.

Amel Setter  
4/27/94

IRA HOPKINS - 200 LOCUST STREET

YEAR: 1977 VOL: 511 PAGE: 39

FROM: Ira N Hopkins and Lillie V PRICE: L&A

TO : Dorothy Hopkins Caldwell (life estate)

NOTES: SW corner of Locust St and Carpenters Alley. Begin at the NE corner of the dwelling house, run S with Locust St 32' to George W Wilson, 509/6; west with Wilson 121' to William Fields, 274/585; N with Fields 32' to S side of Carpenter Alley, then 121' to beginning.

Same conveyed to Ira N Hopkins by Sadie Virginia Harrison, widow, 1942, 252/133.

See attached deed.

YEAR: 1942 VOL: 252 PAGE: 133

FROM: Sadie Virginia Harrison PRICE: \$5

TO : Ira N Hopkins and Lillie V

NOTES: Same as 511/39.

Same conveyed to Charles H Hopkins by John H McQuay, 1881, 95/164

Part of which lot was conveyed by Hopkins to George W Jefferson, 1887, 105/221 and reconveyed to Hopkins by Jefferson, 1887, 110/157.

Devised to Sadie Virginia Harrison , nee Hopkins, by Charles H Hopkins, 1886.

YEAR: 1881 VOL: 95 PAGE: 164

FROM: John H McQuay & Rosanna L. PRICE: \$206

TO : Charles H Hopkins

NOTES: SW corner of Locust & Carpenters. Begin at NE corner of dwelling house. 32' on Locust to Thomas H Willey; W 120' to Porter; N with Porter, 32' to Carpenters; E 120' to Locust & beginning.

Same conveyed to McQuay by Edward Willey, Thomas H Willey, Charles W Willey, and Samuel T Harrison, 1869, 75/391

In 1887, 105/221 Hopkins conveyed the western half of the lot to George J Jefferson for \$50. In 1889, 110/157 Jefferson conveyed it back to Hopkins for \$50 !

YEAR: 1869 VOL: 75 PAGE: 391

FROM: Heirs of Philip Willey PRICE: \$210

TO : John H McQuay

NOTES: On the SW corner of Locust and Carpenter Streets. Begins at the NE corner of the dwelling house; runs S with Locust St. 32' to the lot of Thomas H. Willey; W with Willey 121' to the heirs of John Porter; N with Porter, 32' to Carpenter's Alley; E with the Alley to the beginning.

The heirs mentioned in the deed are: Edward & Susannah Willey; Thomas H. & Martha E. Willey; Charles & Susan A. Willey; Louisa & Samuel T Harrison.

The deed does not mention Philip Willey, nor is any previous conveyance given.

YEAR: 1838 VOL: 54 PAGE: 96

FROM: Mary Ann Graham and George Handy Hopkins PRICE: \$180

TO : Philip Willey

NOTES: The deed says: "The house and lot where George Handy Hopkins resides, designated on the plat of the town as number 30; running one way 124' and the other way 60'; situated on the northwest corner of Locust Street and Carpenter's Alley".

This lot is number 29 NOT 30 and it is on the SOUTHWEST corner of Locust Street and Carpenters' Alley. Lot 30 is 124'x 60' but it is the lot adjacent to number 29, is not a corner lot, and has no Willeys in the chain-of-title. George Handy Hopkins does not appear on any deed related to this property.

Mary Ann Graham was the daughter of Joseph and Mary Harrison, owners of Joseph's Lot, of which this property is a part. She inherited all of the Harrison property not otherwise devised or sold and there is no doubt as to her having title to this lot. The house could have been a rental accomodation for workers in the near-by Willey Shipyard.



# ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

Scale 16 Rods to an Inch  
1877 Atlas.



T-263

DR. DODSON'S  
→

T-263

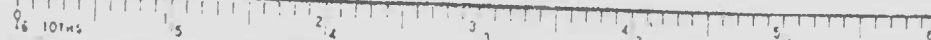
METHODIST  
CEMETERY

ST MARY'S  
SQUARE

WATER STREET

BACK CREEK

MAP  
OF  
ST. MICHAELS  
TALBOT CO. MARYLAND  
SCALE  
JAN. 1, 1925. THOMAS F. BARD



T-263

*Am 2:00 P.M.*  
 APR 27-77 \* Z3286 \*\*\*\*\*10.50  
 APR 27-77 A Z3286 \*\*\*\*\*10.50

THIS DEED, Made this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, A.D., in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventy-seven, by IRA N. HOPKINS and LILLIE V. HOPKINS, his wife, of Talbot County, State of Maryland, Grantors herein.

WITNESSETH, That for and in consideration of the natural love and affection the said Grantors have for the hereinafter named Grantee, the said Ira N. Hopkins and Lillie V. Hopkins, his wife, do hereby grant and convey all of the remainder after expiration of the life estate hereinafter reserved, insofar as said remainder may be undisposed of under the powers hereinafter reserved to the said Grantors, unto DOROTHY HOPKINS CALDWELL, her heirs and assigns, in fee simple, in and to the hereinafter described lot of ground and premises, RESERVING, HOWEVER, unto the said Grantors the said property FOR THE TERM OR REST OF THEIR JOINT LIVES AND THE LIFE OF THE SURVIVOR, with full power unto the said Grantors during their joint lives and the life of the survivor (but not to Will) to sell, lease, option, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of the said property and premises, remainder as well as life estate, and with the right to them during their joint lives and the life of the survivor, to consume or exhaust the proceeds of such disposition without accountability to the said remaindermen, that is to say:

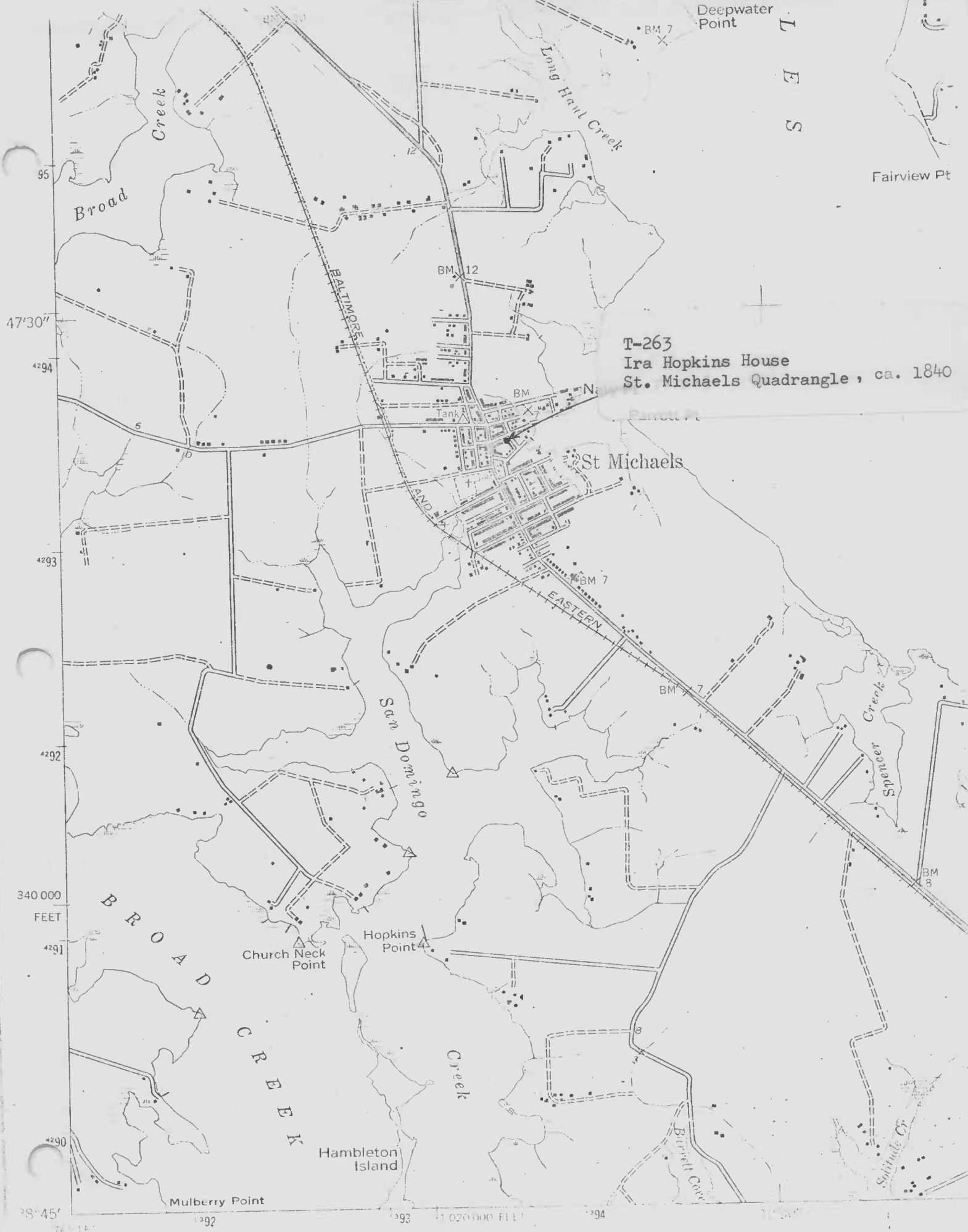
ALL and singular that lot or parcel of ground with the improvements thereon, situated on the southwest corner of Locust Street and Carpenters Alley (Street) in the Town of St. Michaels, County and State aforesaid, and described as follows, that is to say:

BEGINNING for the same at the northeast corner of the dwelling house situated on said lot of ground and running thence southerly with Locust Street thirty-two feet to a lot of ground now belonging to George W. Wilson, et ux (509/6), thence westerly with the line of Wilson lot, one hundred twenty-one feet to a lot of ground now belonging to William Fields (274/585), thence northerly with the line of the Fields lot, thirty-two feet to the south side of Carpenters Alley (Street), thence easterly with Carpenters Alley (Street) one hundred twenty-one feet to the Place of Beginning.

WALTER W. CLAGGETT  
 ATTORNEY AT LAW  
 EASTON, MARYLAND 21801  
 822-1540

LIBER 511 PAGE 39

*Examined*



T-263  
Ira Hopkins House  
St. Michaels Quadrangle, ca. 1840



IRA HOPKINS HOUSE

T-263

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

Northeast Elevation

6/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG/MD. Historical Trust



IRA HOPKINS HOUSE

T-263

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

Northwest Elevation

6/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG/MD. Historical Trust





9 x 1.90

50%.

263

T-263

Hell's Crossing  
St. Michaels



T-263

Ira Hopkins House

Photo: Wm. Bodenstein



T-243

Ira Hopkins House

Photo Wm. Bodenstein



T-263

Ira Hopkins House

Photo Wm. Bodenstein